(b) if so, the comparative figures in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to introduce Technical Missions to improve the productivity in these regions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) A comparative statement giving productivity of foodgrains, oilseeds, sugarcane and jute/ mesta in Eastern, North-Eastern and other States during 1995-96 is annexed. (*see* below) There is a mixed picture in the productivity of various crops.

(c) and (d) There is no such proposal to introduce technological mission exclusively for these regions. However, the government is implementing various crop specific and sector specific developmental programmes in different States including Eastern and North-Eastern regions of the country for improving the productivity in agriculture sector.

Statement

Comparative statement giving productivity of Foodgrains, Oilseeds, Sugarcane and Jute/ Mesta in Eastern, North-Eastern and other States 1995-96

(Kg./Hec.)

States	Food-grains	Oil-seeds	Sugar-cane	Jute/ Mesta
Eastern State				
1. Bihar	1465	625	45513	1611
2. Orissa	1088	522	65303	1305
3. West Bengal	1985	780	76267	1969
4. Sikkim	1351	792	*	*
North-Eastern States				
1. Arunachal Pradesh	1201	1060	*	*
2. Assam	1306	515	41513	1666
3. Manipur	2511	459	*	*
4. Meghalaya	1163	644	*	1025
5. Mizoram	1589	909	*	*
6. Nagaland	1235	886	53189	*
7. Tripura	1951	720	*	1535
Others				
1. Andhra Pradesh	1719	918	71271	1445
2. Gujarat	1094	741	65045	*
3. Haryana	2537	1282	56181	*
4. Himachal Pradesh	1615	*	*	*
5. Jammu & Kashmir	1541	424	*	*
6. Karnataka	1292	685	79559	284
7. Kerala	1902	601	80000	*
8. Madhya Pradesh	1020	870	39980	430
9. Maharashtra	879	775	80442	261
10. Punjab	3472	1201	*	*
11. Rajasthan	805	799	50356	*
12. Tamil Nadu	2148	1472	11011	*
13. Uttar Pradesh	1886	855	60692	*
ALL INDIA	1499	851	68369	1733

* Crop not grown.

Central fund for flood relief to Tamil Nadu

7. SHRI R. MARGABANDU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have released the entire fund demanded by the Tamil Nadu Government towards flood relief;

(b) if not, whether it will not amount to discrimination between the States;

(c) the details of the demands made by the States and funds provided, State-wise; and

(d) whether entire funds have been fully utilised by the Tamil Nadu Government?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) Government of India have already released its entire share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for 1996-97 amounting to Rs. 44.51 crores to Government of Tamil Nadu. A Memoradum has been received seeking additional assistance of Rs. 621.55 crores from the National Fund for Calamity relief (NFCR) for relief and rehabilitation measures in the wake of heavy rains and floods of December, 1996. A Central Team visited the State on 27—31 December, 1996. Based on the report of the Team, the National Calamity relief Committee will decide about the quantum of additional assistace, if any, from the NFCR.

(c) A Statement indicating the demands made by different States for additional assistance and the funds provided for natural calamities during 1996-97 is given below:—

(Rs. in Crores)

S. No.	State	Additional funds sought	Funds released from NFCR
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2819.37	142.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	110.53	3.00
3.	Assam	415.91	21.00
4.	Bihar	168.92	7.00
5.	Gujarat	497.78	—
6.	Haryana	145.36	—
7.	Himachal Pradesh	458.37	Under consideration
8.	Jammu &Kashmir	273.97	—
9.	Karnataka	621.55	—
10.	Kerala	342.00	—
11.	Madhya Pradesh	198.75	Under consideration
12.	Orissa	585.80	13.00
13.	Rajasthan	321.00	—
14.	Sikkim	43.92	Under consideration
15.	Tamil Nadu	621.55	-do-
16.	Uttar Pradesh	612.61	-do-
17.	West Bengal	309.00	—

(d) Does not arise as no funds have so far been released to the State Government from the National Fund for Calamity Relief.

Central assistance to flood victims of Karnataka

8. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has sought Rs. 135 crores from Central Government to provide relief to persons affected by rains and floods in the State, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the action Government have taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) A memorandum was received from the Government of Karnataka seeking additional assistance from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) for relief and rehabilitation measures in the wake of floods during 1996. The memorandum indicated a loss of Rs. 134.41 crores due to the floods.

(b) and (c) Government of India have already released their share of Calamity Relief Fund of Rs. 31.39 crores for 1996-97 to the State Government for relief and rehabilitation measures in the flood affected areas. Any additional assistance from the NFCR can be released only in the wake of a calamity of rare severity. On the basis of the reported extent of damage and requirements of relief and rehabilitation, the situation was not considered a calamity of rare severity warranting any additional assistance from the NFCR.

Crop Insurance Scheme

9. SHRI O.S. MANIAN:
PROF. RAM KAPSE:
SHRI N. THALAVI SUNDRAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to introduce a Crop Insurance Scheme for the whole country;

(b) if so, by when;

(c) the agency or company which will handle the scheme; and

(d) if answer to part (a) be in the negative, whether Government would consider providing crop insurance to the State like Tamil Nadu which is prone to cyclone and floods?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) to (d) A Comprehencive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) has already been in operation in the country including in Tamil Nadu State since the Kharif 1985 season. It is voluntary in nature for the States to implement. The scheme is implemented through the General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC).

Research on sugarcane in Maharashtra

10. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have sought assistance for undertaking research on sugarcane in the State;